Scientists of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology

8300. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the services of about 70 scientists of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology are being terminated by the Department of Science and Technology in a phased manner; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) (a) and (b) There is no proposal to terminate the services of any scientist in the employ of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun.

Commercialisation of CSIR Knowledge Base

8301. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted the recommendations made by Mashelkar Committee on commercialisation of CSIR knowledge base; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations being accepted and the modifications proposed therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) (a) and (b) It has been decided to accept the recommendations made by Mashelkar Committee in regard to Marketing Setup, Staffing of Marketing Groups, Budget Head for Marketing, Training, Procedural Flexibilities, Recognition of User-oriented Work, International Cooperation, Technology Price for Technology Marketing, Technology Marketing Achievement, Sabbaticdal Leave etc. Of the recommendations relating to equity in lieu of fee for intellectual property licence is being further examined whereas the recommendation relating to representation of CSIR Staff on Board of Directors of private sector companies has been accepted. Further, the recommendation regarding establishment of Commercial Arms of Laboratories has also been accepted to give a fillip to the commercialisation of knowledge base of CSIR. Engagement of Consultants for Business Development and Marketing of knowledge base has also been accepted with certain stipulations. The recommendation relating to Monestary Incentives has been accepted with the modification that the distribution is to be made of the Intellectual fee or net surplus (remaining after accounting for all direct and indirect expenditure, as prescribed in the CSIR Guidelines) whichever is lower.

MOU signed between India and Singapore

8302. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMA CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Memorandum of Understanding between India and Singapore was signed during the visit of the Prime Minister of Singapore to India in January, 1995;

(b) if so, what are the details of this MOU; and

(c) what steps have been taken to follow up the points in the MOU?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir. An inter-governmental Agreement on Cooperation in Science & Technology between India Singapore was signed at Calcutta on January 4, 1995.

(b) The Agreement envisages cooperation in the Scientific fields, including management of research & development, through exchange of Information, exchange of researchers, joint execution of research & development projects, orngaisation of joint seminars and commercialisation of technologies in India and Singapore or any third country including participation in joint ventures. The Cooperation will be executed by conclusion of mutually agreeable programmes of cooperation.

This Agreement shall enter into force after approval by the two countries in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures and exchange of notes concerning such approvals through diplomatic channels.

(c) Discussions have been initiated by identification of a few broad areas like Information Technology, Biotechnology, Materials Science, Chemical Technology, and Telecommunication for our cooperation.

Token programme

8303. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a UNDP funded transfer of knowledge through expatriable natonal (TOKEN programme was initiated by the CSIR in 1980 to lure Indian scientists settled abroad;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the outcome of the review, if any, made by Government to know how far the programme has achieved its objective; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The basic objective of the programme is to utilise the expertise and resources of highly accomplished talented NRI professionals in related fields to work as consultants in a large number of organisations including industries with a view to (i) solving problems; (ii) working in R & D areas with ultimate objective of generating processes and products; and (iii) giving new ideas and directions and undertaking assignments for specific requirements of industry.

(c) As per the Report of the Joint Evaluation Mission, the Programme has been found effective and useful both at macro and micro levels. The objective of macro level analysis revolvs around TOKTEN role as a catalyst for national development whereas micro level analysis focuses on TOKTEN as an operating system. The Mission after interacting with several prominent user organisations at several places has come to the conclusion that the user organisations have perceived this programme as highly beneficial in terms of transfer of knowledge and know-how and in many cases as an effective vehicle to solve major application problems as well as for generation of technologies and in some cases, to lay the foundation for such a process. The Mission has also observed that the deficiencies pointed out in the pre-